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Docket-File Rm 222

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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POLICY & PLANNING
BRANCH ROOM 5202

2 MAR 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:
7330-7/1700A3

RECEIVED

MAR - 5 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Robert H. Michel
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
236 West State Street
Jacksonville, Illinois 62650-2002

Dear Congressman Michel:

This is in reply to your letter of February 12, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Frederick E. Nevin, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituent is specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest. Your constituent's letter will be included in the record of the proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Sincerely,

Edward R. Jacobs

SR

Richard J. Shiben
Land Mobile and Microwave Division

Enclosure

cc:
Chief, PR Bureau
Chief, LM&M Division
Docket Files, Room 222
P&P Branch File (Pink)

CNTL NO - 9300711

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CONGRESS/rb/lmm/PRB

Congressional

DUE OBC: 2-26-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
02/18/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300711	02/18/93	02/12/93	03/03/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Congressman	Robert Michel	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
Frederick E Nevin	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/Lmn			
2-19-93			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
02/18/93			

REMARKS:

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1318
February 12, 1993

PRB
92-235
711

Ms. Linda Townsend Solheim, Director
Legislative Affairs
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, N. W., Room 808
Washington, D. C. 20554

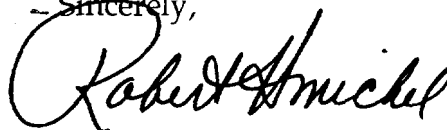
Dear Ms. Solheim:

Enclosed you will find a copy of correspondence from Mr. Frederick E. Nevin that I have received regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM-PR Docket 92-235).

Mr. Nevin is concerned that the implementation of this may make the price of his airplane flying hobby out of reach of youngsters who would learn by participating in this hobby. You will find the enclosed letter self-explanatory. I would appreciate any information your staff could provide which will help me in responding to Mr. Nevin.

Please contact me at my Jacksonville office concerning this inquiry.

Sincerely,



Robert H. Michel
Member of Congress

RHM:sd
Enclosure

RESPOND TO:

FEB 12 1993

February 10, 1993

The Honorable Robert Michel
U. S. House of Reps.
Washington, D.C., 20515

Dear Mr. Michel:

I have been retired since 1985 and one of my hobbies has been building and flying model airplanes, an interesting pasttime for the last 61 years. Since 1961 I have been guiding and controlling the models through the use of remote radio control. As one's age creeps up, one appreciates the ability to bring the model back to the model flying field without having to run after it to retrieve the plane. I also enjoy sailing radio controlled sailboats.

I am very concerned that the [FCC] has issued a NOTICE of PROPOSED RULE MAKING [NPRM-PR DOCKET92-235] which if implemented will have a profound effect on radio frequencies, used to control models, which are presently in place, and greatly increase the risks of accidents and attendant liabilities when controlling model airplanes.

The model airplane radio control frequencies are in the 72-76MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. Please note that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left should the NOTICE of PROPOSED RULE MAKING be adopted.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of operators and spectator and the protection of property. Many of the safety precaution employed involve the careful coordination of the radio frequencies in use. Should the number of useable frequencies be reduced through the implementation of the rule change by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will be congested and the margin of safety greatly reduced.

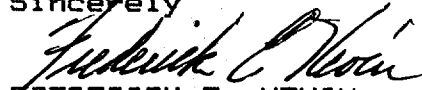
Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans in excess of 10 feet and can weigh up to 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build and equip with radio control system; but more to the point they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to loose control of the aircraft. We often fly our models at organized event and contests where hundreds of operators participate and thousands of spectators observe. The model flyers of the U.S. needs the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying enviroment.

The membership in ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS and THE SPORT FLYERS ASSOCIATION number over 1,600,000 of which half of them fly radio control models. Many have multiple airplanes and radios . The investment are many thousands of dollars , and the market is growing each year, much of which could be lost should the FCC change th rules.

Should the FCC choose to improve the operating conditions of the land mobile radio users at the expense of the radio control modelers, there will be a profound affect on the AMERICAN HOBBY ASSOCIATION. Many small businesses who specialize in providing parts and services to the radio control model manufacturers will no longer be able to sell their products

Please lend me a hand to preserve an honorable indutry which in turn allow me to continue the enjoyment of a hobby which instills in children the desire to learn by participating. I ask you to use you position to curtail the FCC from implementing the NOTICE of PROPOSED RULE MAKING [NPRM-PR DOCKET 92-235].

Sincerely



FREDERICK E. NEVIN
9 AARON DRIVE
JACKSONVILLE, IL. 62650-1728